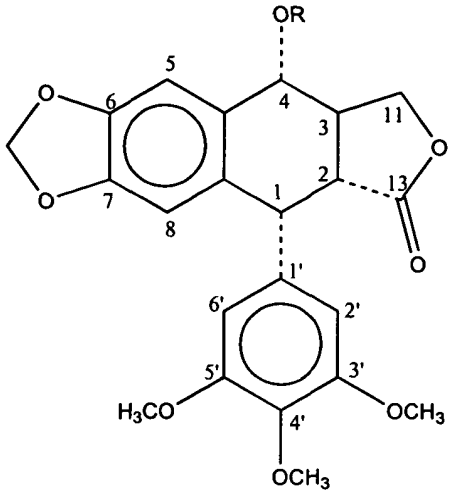
The subject matter claimed is:

1. A compound represented by the formula:



wherein R is $C(O)-(CH_2)_m-X-R_1$, wherein m is 0-10, X is S, O, N or a covalent bond, and R_1 is optionally substituted phenyl, optionally substituted cycloalkyl having 3 to 7 carbons forming the ring, optionally substituted fused 2-, 3-, or 4- ring heterocycle, optionally substituted 1- or 2- naphthyl, optionally substituted 5- or 6-membered heterocycle, optionally substituted anthraquinone, or hemisuccinic acid;

with the proviso that when m is 0 and X is a bond, R_1 cannot be phenyl or substituted phenyl; when X is a bond and R_1 is phenyl, m cannot be 2 and when X is O, m cannot be 1.

2. The compound of claim 1, wherein m is 1-10 and R_1 is phenyl substituted with one to five substituents independently selected from halo, lower alkyl, hydroxy, lower alkoxy, cyano, nitro, amino, lower alkylamino, halogenated lower alkylamino, halogenated lower alkyl, halogenated lower alkoxy, carbonyl, hydroxycarbonyl, lower alkylcarbonyloxy, benzyloxy, optionally substituted 5 or 6 membered heterocyclic ring, an imide ring, lower alkoxycarbonyl, and lower alkylcarbonylamino.

3. The compound of claim 2, wherein m is 1 to 3 and X is S or O.

4. The compound of claim 3, wherein m is 1, X is O and R_1 is phenyl substituted with 1, 2, or 3 substituents independently chosen from, halo, methyl, methoxy, NO_2, trifluoromethyl, and carbonyl.

5. The compound of claim 4, wherein R_1 is phenyl substituted with one or two halo substituents.

6. The compound of claim 4, wherein R_1 is phenyl substituted with a methyl substituent.

7. The compound of claim 1, wherein m is 1 and R_1 is optionally substituted cycloalkyl having 3 to 7 carbons forming the ring, optionally substituted fused 2-, 3-, or 4- ring heterocycle, optionally substituted 5- or 6-membered heterocycle, or optionally substituted anthraquinone.

8. The compound of claim 1, wherein m is 0 to 3; and X is oxygen or a covalent bond.

9. The compound of claim 8, wherein X is oxygen.

10. The compound of claim 8, wherein X is a covalent bond.

11. The compound of claim 10, wherein R_1 is an optionally substituted 5-membered heterocycle with an oxygen or one or two nitrogens in the ring.

12. The compound of claim 11, wherein R_1 is optionally substituted furan-2-yl.

13. The compound of claim 12, wherein R_1 is 5-nitrofuran-2-yl.

14. The compound of claim 10, wherein R_1 is an optionally substituted 6-membered heterocycle with one or two nitrogens in the ring.

15. The compound of claim 14, wherein the 6-membered heterocycle is pyridine-3-yl, thymin-1-yl, or piperazin-1-yl.

16. The compound of claim 10, wherein R_1 is a fused heterocyclic ring system.

17. The compound of claim 16, wherein R_1 is optionally substituted quinolin-4-yl.

18. The compound of claim 17, wherein R_1 is 2-phenylquinolin-4-yl.

19. The compound of claim 16, wherein the fused heterocyclic ring system is chromon-2-yl.

20. The compound of claim 10, wherein R_1 is a fused carbocyclic system.

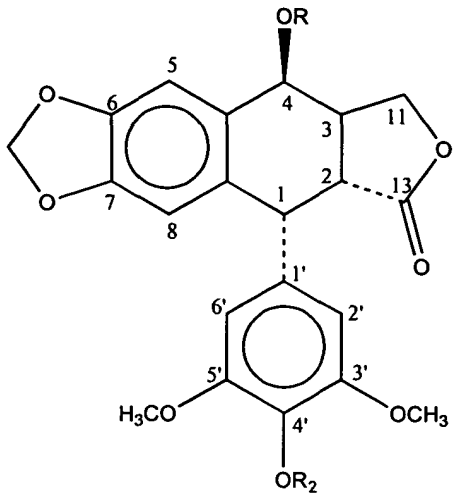
21. The compound of claim 20, wherein R_1 is anthraquinon-1-yl.

22. The compound of claim 1 in combination with a pharmaceutically-acceptable excipient to form a pharmaceutical composition.

23. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 22, which is in the form of a liposomal composition.

24. A method for treating cancer in a patient, which method comprises administering a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of claim 1 to the patient.

25. A compound represented by the formula:



wherein R is $C(O)-(CH_2)_m-X-R_1$ wherein m is 0-10, X is S, O, N or a covalent bond, and R_1 is optionally substituted phenyl, optionally substituted cycloalkyl having 3 to 7 carbons forming the ring, optionally substituted fused 2-, 3-, or 4- ring heterocycle, optionally substituted 1- or 2- naphthyl, optionally substituted 5- or 6-membered heterocycle, optionally substituted anthraquinone, or hemisuccinic acid, and

R_2 is hydrogen, PO_3H_2 or $PO(OR_3)_2$ where R_3 is benzyl.

26. The compound of claim 25 wherein R_2 is hydrogen or PO_3H_2.

27. The compound of claim 26, wherein m is 1-10 and R_1 is phenyl substituted with one to five substituents independently selected from halo, lower alkyl, hydroxy, lower alkoxy, cyano, nitro, amino, lower alkylamino, halogenated lower alkylamino, halogenated lower alkyl, halogenated lower alkoxy, carbonyl, hydroxycarbonyl, lower alkylcarbonyloxy, benzyloxy, optionally substituted 5 or 6 membered heterocyclic ring, an imide ring, lower alkoxycarbonyl, and lower alkylcarbonylamino.

28. The compound of claim 27, wherein m is 1 to 3 and X is S or O.

29. The compound of claim 28, wherein m is 1, X is O and R_1 is phenyl substituted with 1, 2, or 3 substituents independently chosen from, halo, methyl, methoxy, NO_2, trifluoromethyl, and carbonyl.

30. The compound of claim 29, wherein R_1 is phenyl substituted with one or two halo substituents.

31. The compound of claim 29, wherein R_1 is phenyl substituted with a methyl substituent.

32. The compound of claim 25, wherein m is 1 and R_1 is optionally substituted cycloalkyl having 3 to 7 carbons forming the ring, optionally substituted fused 2-, 3-, or 4- ring heterocycle, optionally substituted 5- or 6-membered heterocycle, or optionally substituted anthraquinone.

33. The compound of claim 25, wherein m is 0 to 3; and X is oxygen or a covalent bond.

34. The compound of claim 22, wherein X is oxygen.

35. The compound of claim 33, wherein X is a covalent bond.

36. The compound of claim 35, wherein R_1 is an optionally substituted 5-membered heterocycle with an oxygen or one or two nitrogens in the ring.

37. The compound of claim 36, wherein R_1 is optionally substituted furan-2-yl.

38. The compound of claim 37, wherein R_1 is 5-nitrofuran-2-yl.

39. The compound of claim 35, wherein R_1 is an optionally substituted 6-membered heterocycle with one or two nitrogens in the ring.

40. The compound of claim 39, wherein the 6-membered heterocycle is pyridine-3-yl, thymin-1-yl, or piperazin-1-yl.

41. The compound of claim 35, wherein R_1 is a fused heterocyclic ring system.

42. The compound of claim 41, wherein R_1 is optionally substituted quinolin-4-yl.

43. The compound of claim 42, wherein R_1 is 2-phenylquinolin-4-yl.

44. The compound of claim 41, wherein the fused heterocyclic ring system is chromon-2-yl.

45. The compound of claim 35, wherein R_1 is a fused carbocyclic system.

46. The compound of claim 45, wherein R_1 is anthraquinon-1-yl.

47. The compound of claim 25 in combination with a pharmaceutically-acceptable excipient to form a pharmaceutical composition.

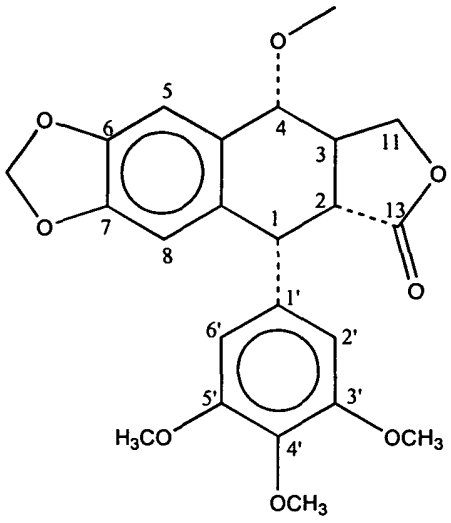
48. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 47, which is in the form of a liposomal composition.

49. A method for treating cancer in a patient, which method comprises administering a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of claim 25 to the patient.

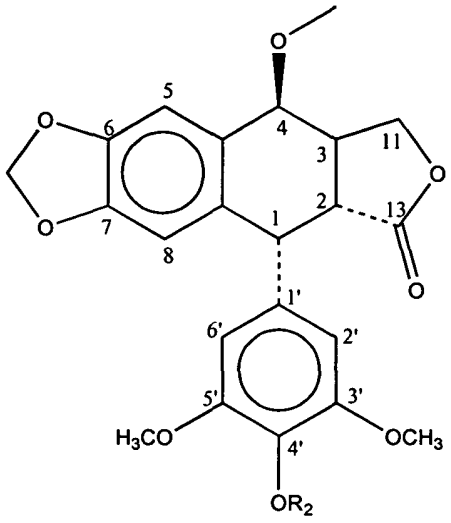
50. A compound represented by the formula

$A\text{-}R_5\text{-}B$

wherein each of A and B independently is represented by the radical



or



wherein R_2 is hydrogen, PO_3H_2 or PO (O R_3)$_2$ where R_3 is benzyl and R_5 is a dicarboxy linker.

51. The compound of claim 50, wherein R_5 is 2, 4-dicarboxy-5-nitrophenyl.

52. The compound of claim 50, wherein R_5 is 3, 5-dicarboxy-pyridine.

53. The compound of claim 51, wherein A and B are the same.

54. The compound of claim 51, wherein A and B are different.

55. The compound of claim 50 in combination with a pharmaceutically acceptable excipient to form a pharmaceutical composition.

56. A method for treating cancer in a patient, which method comprises administering a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of claim 50 to the patient.